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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/507,282	09/10/2004	Olav Kaarstein	P17562 USPC	2809
29078	7590	09/23/2005	EXAMINER	
CHRISTIAN D. ABEL ONSAGERS AS POSTBOKS 6963 ST. OLAVS PLASS NORWAY, N-0130 NORWAY			WILLIAMS, THOMAS J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3683	

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

1-2

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/507,282	KAARSTEIN, OLAV
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Thomas J. Williams	3683

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/25/04.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Acknowledgment is made in the receipt of the priority papers and oath filed September 10, 2004 and the information disclosure statement filed October 25, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 4-6, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 4,783,038 to Gilbert et al.

Re-claims 1 and 6, Gilbert et al. disclose a device and system for damping vibrations, characterized by an oblong plate 16 designed for attachment to a reference object A, an upper 12a and lower 12b attachment are fixed to the plate for an upper 26a and lower 36a damping element, the damping elements are connected via a joining element 18 between the upper and lower attachments, the damping elements are broadly interpreted as wire rings.

Re-claims 4 and 9, see figure 4.

Re-claims 5 and 10, an axial space between the upper and lower attachment forms a slot in which the joining element tends to move within.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,791,636 to Loziuk.

Re-claims 1 and 6, Loziuk discloses in figures 5 and 6 a device and system for damping vibrations, characterized by an oblong plate 122 (see column 8 line 1) designed for attachment to

a reference object A, an upper 20 and lower 26 attachment are fixed to the plate for an upper and lower damping element, the damping elements are connected via a joining element 92 between the upper and lower attachments, the damping elements are wire rings.

Re-claims 2 and 7, the plate can be interpreted as element 92 and the joining element can be interpreted as part of housing 52 (see figure 3), in which case the joining element is attached to a sleeve 52 that envelopes the plate 92.

Re-claims 4 and 9, see figure 6.

Re-claims 5 and 10, see figure 5.

5. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 059 143 to Prost.

Re-claims 1 and 6, Prost discloses in figures 12 and 13 a device and system for damping vibrations, characterized by an oblong plate 2A/2B designed for attachment to a reference object A, an upper and lower attachment are fixed to the plate for an upper 1 and lower 1 damping element, the damping elements are connected via a joining element 2 between the upper and lower attachments, the damping elements are broadly interpreted as wire rings.

Re-claims 4 and 9, see figures.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Gilbert et al., Loziuk, or Prost.

Re-claims 3 and 8, Neither Gilbert et al., Loziuk, nor Prost teach the device used for mounting a stretcher, or more specifically the joining element fixed to a hook for mounting the stretcher. However, it is the opinion of the examiner that each of the devices is capable of mounting any number of objects including a stretcher and that the joining element is capable of having affixed thereto a hook for mounting the stretcher. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have realized that each device of Gilbert et al., Loziuk, or Prost is capable of supporting and isolating from vibrations a stretcher, since each element is designed to isolate and support a mass from a vibratory element.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hoekstra, Nolan, Loziuk and Slemmer each teach a shock and isolating support structure using wire rings.

Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Williams whose telephone number is 571-272-7128. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor, can be reached at 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-6584.

TJW

September 20, 2005

THOMAS J. WILSON
PATENT EXAMINER

Thomas Wilson
AU 3683
9-20-05